

VDA QMC

Qualitäts Management Center
im Verband der Automobilindustrie

QUALITY REQUIRES TRUST

joint quality management in the supply chain



VDA-compliant car washes

Your benefits in only using VDA-compliant car washes:

- + Car wash technology and wash chemicals are suitable for modern vehicles and in line with the (generally) accepted technical rules and standards
- + The effective loads and stresses are below the maximum specified design values for the vehicle
- + Automotive manufacturers advise their customers to only use car washes that confirm to the VDA specifications and requirements (recommended in operating manuals and via the dealer network)



In April 2010, maximum loads and stresses for vehicles in car washes were defined for the first time in the VDA publication on “Car Washes”.

The reasons for this were:

- + Vehicle leaks caused by water pressure and water volumes that exceed the design parameters and specifications for modern vehicles.
- + Increasing use of decorative and functional vehicle add-on parts made of materials that can be visually or functionally impaired by wash chemicals that were commonly used up to now.

The Association of the Automotive Industry (VDA) therefore developed guidelines and testing and inspection criteria for existing and future car washes as well as for wash chemicals.



Operators of car washes* whose facilities comply with the specifications stipulated by the automotive industry with regard to chemicals and technical requirements can apply for a VDA seal.

The VDA seal indicates that the certified car wash is operated in conformance with the specifications and requirements stipulated by the automotive industry.

*Gantry / gate-type car washes, conveyor tunnel systems, self-service car wash systems



The seal is only awarded if all criteria are met in full.

In addition to criteria for wash chemicals, mechanical requirements were also specified:

- + Minimum dimensions for car washes
 - + Overhangs & undercuts
 - + Protruding vehicle parts /
Projecting bodywork sections
 - + Hydrodynamic loads and stresses
 - + Water volumes
 - + Water pressure
 - + Mechanical loads and stresses
 - + Buckling strength of bodywork /
Resistance of bodywork to denting
 - + Firm fit of add-on parts /
Firm retention of attached components
 - + Tensile forces in gaps
 - + Washing convertibles / coupés
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Supporters of the initiative include the following automotive manufacturers and associations:

- + Adam Opel GmbH
- + BMW Group
- + Daimler AG
- + Dr. Ing. H.c. F. Porsche AG
- + Karmann GmbH
- + Volkswagen AG
- + Berufsgenossenschaft Handel und Warendistribution [BGHW] (Institution for Statutory Accident Insurance and Prevention in the Trade and Goods Distribution Industry)
- + Bundesverband Tankstellen und Gewerbliche Auto-
wäsche Deutschland e.V. [BTg -Minden] (German Association of Filling Stations and Commercial Car Washes)
- + Industrieverband Hygiene und Oberflächenschutz für
industrielle und institutionelle Anwendung e.V. [IHO]
(German Industrial Association for Hygiene and the
Protection of Surfaces in Industrial and Institutional
Applications)
- + Quality Management Center in the German Association
of the Automotive Industry [VDA QMC]



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